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PILED

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS

ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELOR COMMITTEE
OF THE STATE BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND
FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE OF

DAVID WOOLBERT

TO PRACTICE ALCOHOL AND DRUG COUNSELING IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY Administrative Action

CONSENT ORDER

This matter was opened before the Alcohol and Drug Counselors Committee of the New Jersey State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners (hereinafter "the Committee"), upon review of respondent's application for licensure. In respondent's application for licensure he disclosed that he is licensed as a Professional Counselor and was disciplined by the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee. He was disciplined for misrepresenting to the Addiction Professionals Certification Board of New Jersey that he attended continuing education courses necessary for his recertification as an Alcohol/Drug Counselor that he did not in fact attend. The Professional Counselor Examiners Committee found that it appeared that he engaged in the employment of dishonesty and misrepresentation and ordered him to pay a civil penalty in the amount of \$1,000.00 and to take a one semester graduate level ethics course. His employer,

the Atlantic County Department of Human Services issued a Final Order of Disciplinary Action based on the same conduct sustaining the charge of "conduct unbecoming a public employee."

Respondent appeared <u>pro se</u> before the Committee on August 27, 2004 to discuss his disciplinary history. Respondent admitted that he was mistaken in his conduct and that he had been disciplined. He discussed how this mistake had changed his life and how he has been able to work with many people to improve their lives. The Committee having reviewed respondent's application, evidence of his success in the field of alcohol and drug counseling, that he has been disciplined for his misconduct, that the misconduct occurred more than five years ago, that he has shown remorse and was forthright with the Committee regarding his misconduct; and the Committee finding that the following disposition of this matter is adequately protective of the public, and other good cause appearing;

ORDERED:

- 1. Respondent shall be granted a license to practice alcohol and drug counseling upon compliance with the terms of this Consent Order and all requirements for licensure.
- 2. Respondent is reprimanded pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(a) for his act of misrepresenting that he attended continuing education classes necessary for recertification as an Alcohol/Drug Counselor.
- 3. Respondent shall pay a civil penalty in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) upon the signing of this Consent Order. Payment shall be by certified check or money order, payable to the State of New Jersey, and sent to Elaine DeMars, Executive Director, Alcohol and Drug Committee, P.O. Box 45044, Newark, New Jersey 07101. In the event respondent presents evidence that he has paid a civil

penalty of one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) for this same misconduct to the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee, the civil penalty provided herein shall be stayed in its entirety.

- 4. Respondent shall take a one semester, three (3) credit graduate level ethics course at an accredited institution. The course shall be pre-approved by the Committee. The course shall be completed within one year of the signing of this Consent Order and respondent shall submit proof within two weeks of completion of the course of full attendance at the course and successful completion of the course. This course shall not be used to complete the minimum number of required contact hours of continuing education for any renewal application.
- described in paragraph #4 above, respondent shall submit an essay to

 the Committee explaining the lessons and concepts he learned from the

 ethics course and how he will apply those specific lessons and

 concepts to his professional and personal life.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG COMMITTEE OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS

Edward Reading Committee Chair, A

I have read the above order and I understand and agree to abide by its terms. Consent is hereby given to the Committee of Alcohol and Drug Counselors of the Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners to enter this Order

David Woolbert